

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A camera comprising:

a lens holding member for detachably holding a lens device;

5 an image taking device for taking an image formed by said lens device;

a front main body member forming a front portion of a main body of said camera;

10 a rear main body member which forms a rear portion of the main body of said camera and is coupled to said front main body member; and

15 a central main body member on which said lens holding member and said image taking device are mounted and which is coupled to at least one of said front and rear main body members.

20 2. A camera according to claim 1, wherein said central main body member is fixed to only said front main body member of said front and rear main body members.

25 3. A camera according to claim 1, further comprising coupling members for coupling said front and rear main body members to each other.

4. A camera according to claim 3, wherein said coupling members are arranged on the two sides of said

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central main body member.

5. A camera according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 a finder optical device mounted on said central main body member; and

a mirror unit which is mounted on said central main body member and reflects a light beam from said lens device and guides the light beam to said finder
10 optical system.

6. A camera according to claim 5, wherein said finder optical device includes a focal plate serving as an imaging plane for the light beam reflected by said
15 mirror unit.

7. A camera according to claim 5, further comprising a focus detection device which is mounted on said central main body member and performs focus
20 detection by using a light beam from said mirror unit.

8. A camera according to claim 1, wherein said front and rear main body members comprise metal parts.

25 9. A camera according to claim 8, wherein said front and rear main body members are formed by pressing.

10. A camera according to claim 8, further comprising an electric component part placed between said front and rear main body members, said front and rear main body members being rendered conductive to electric ground.

11. A camera according to claim 1, further comprising a casing member on which an accessory mount portion on which an electronic flash and other accessories can be detachably mounted is fixed, said casing member being supported by a reinforcing metal member mounted on at least one of said front and rear main body members.

12. A camera according to claim 1, further comprising a lens device detachably mounted on said camera.